Docket No. 46,910-DIV2-CPA (46590)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICANT: Y. Hayashi, et al.

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

SERIAL NO. 09/499,765

EXAMINER: Nolan, P.

FILED:

February 8, 2000

GROUP:

1644

FOR:

COMPOSITION CONTAINING α -FODRIN OR α -FODRIN FRAGMENT

PROTEIN

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence (and all papers referred to therein) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail (No. EV 789783813 US) in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on June 18, 2001.

Elizabeth Anne Sweeny

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

The above-identified application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

The claims have been amended to read as follows:

14. (amended) A method for preventing or treating Sjögren's syndrome which comprises administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of α -fodrin, a mutein thereof, an antigenic fragment available upon proteolysis of α -fodrin with a protease, which contains or comprises an amino acid sequence substantially